

# AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

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### SOVIET UNION GETS AUSTRIAN REPLY OFFERING AID IN SUMMIT TALKS IF FAVORED BY ALL PARTICIPANTS

*Austria has insisted that Soviet-proposed summit talks can be effective only if they are prepared properly by advance negotiations.*

*While Austria has agreed to lend a hand, it has, at the same time, insisted, that it would only participate in such talks if that was the desire of all parties concerned.*

*As to advance negotiations, an Austrian note replying to two Soviet notes on the subject, said that preparations were absolutely necessary to exclude the possibility of failure.*

*The Austrian government held that failure would be most discouraging to all mankind and that every step should be taken to assure a measure of success.*

*Austria agreed with the Soviet Union, however, that the need to reach an East-West understanding was urgent.*

### FIGL RECEIVES SOVIET ENVOY

Austrian Foreign Minister Figl, in the presence of State Secretary Kreisky, received Soviet Ambassador S.G. Lapin last Jan. 21. Figl gave Lapin the Austrian note replying to two Soviet notes of December 10, 1957, and January 8, 1958. An exchange of opinion followed.

### THE FULL TEXT OF THE AUSTRIAN NOTE ON PAGE 7

### RAAB REVIEWS BULGANIN'S MESSAGE BEFORE THE AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT

Federal Chancellor Julius Raab made a statement in Parliament regarding the Austrian reply to a message from Premier Bulganin of the Soviet Union. He said in part:

"The Austrian note states first that in spite of various promising beginnings it has not been possible during the past few years to lessen the existing tensions decisively. The Austrian Federal Government is convinced that untiring efforts are necessary to achieve a constructive solution of still unsettled international problems.

"The Soviet note contains as a concrete proposal the suggestion of holding a so-called summit conference within the next few months. According to the Soviet view, participants in this summit conference should be the statesmen of both the major Eastern and Western powers as well as

(Continued on page 2)

### AUSTRIA'S FOREIGN TRADE IN 1957

According to provisional figures released by the Austrian Central Office of Statistics, imports in 1957 amounted to \$1,130,000,000 as against \$980,000,000 in 1956. Exports from Austria amounted to 985,000,000 in 1957 as against \$850,000,000 in 1956. The deficit of the trade balance amounted thus to \$145,000,000 in 1957 compared to \$140,000,000 the year before.

Imports into Austria increased from one year to the other 15.9% whereas exports showed an increase of only 15.2%. In terms of weight imports increased from 10.6 million tons in 1956 to 11.7 million tons in 1957. At the same time exports rose from 6.6 million tons to 6.7 million tons.

### UNEMPLOYMENT DOWN; JANUARY TOTAL: 198,947

Unemployed persons registered for jobs with the State Employment offices numbered 198,947 in the middle of January. Among them were 121,132 men (60.9%) and 77,815 women (39.1%). Compared with December, 1957, the figure of total unemployed rose by 43,604 (28.1%). Among them were 33,141 men (76%).

However, a comparison with January 1957 shows a decrease of unemployed persons by 5,332 (2.6%).

### ABOUT 20,000 HUNGARIAN REFUGEES STILL IN AUSTRIA

In a report of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration, the year 1957 is summarized as "the year of record activity." 98,740 Hungarian refugees were relocated from Austria and sent to new homes during the year, thanks to the work of the Committee. (The ICEM was started in 1951 and has 27 state members.)

Since the start of the Hungarian revolution in October, 1956, a total of 178,917 Hungarians fled to Austria. 153,673 went to 36 free world nations. Some 5,000 decided to return to Hungary. Thus, there remain less than 20,000 refugees in Austria (the exact end-of-year figure is given below). Topping the list of nations which granted the Hungarians permanent asylum is the United States with more than 35,000. Next come Canada with 22,500, Britain with 20,500, West Germany with 14,200, Switzerland with 11,900 and France with 10,200.

But ICEM was also busy during the year looking for places for Yugoslav refugees. Several thousands were relocated in other countries by ICEM.

Currently ICEM is busy registering all Hungarian refugees still living in Austria. By this method, it hopes to find all so-called "difficult" cases (the sick and the aged) and give them special attention.

(Continued)

### Unemployment No Major Problem

The Austrian Interior Ministry also made a social survey.

Of the most recently arrived 10,520 refugees, 5,125 are males over 18 years of age (the findings concerning female refugees have not yet been analyzed). Of the men, 1,382 are working, 689 are in high schools or colleges and 3,054 are unemployed. Among the last group, only 462 want to remain in Austria.

The survey - even though its findings are incomplete - makes it clear that it should be possible to integrate the remaining Hungarian refugees into the Austrian labor market. (The total number of Hungarian refugees last Dec. 31, was 19,118. Of these 8,602 are in camps, the rest is taken care of by private persons and private organizations.)

Regarding the refugees from Yugoslavia, press reports show that around the end of 1957, 16,619 had left their native land. Of these, 6,218 are in Austrian camps, 2,286 are living with private individuals, and 5,468 left for other countries.

(The United States has recently allocated another 2 million dollars for the Hungarian Refugees in Austria.)

### Raab Reviews (Continued from page 1)

the representatives of nations which belong to neither group.

"The Austrian viewpoint is implicit in Austria's own political precepts. The known peaceful character of the Austrian people as well as our geographic position at the cross roads between East and West permit us to appreciate all efforts which are directed at a lessening of international tensions.

"Regarding the Soviet Union's concrete proposal to hold a conference of leading statesmen, we are of the opinion that it should be well prepared to guarantee a constructive solution of the existing political questions or at least to lead to a promising beginning. Nothing would be more disappointing to mankind than a failure by such a conference upon which the peoples of the world - and ourselves - have set such great hopes."

### PARTY VIEWPOINTS IN PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE

When Rep. Tonic spoke for the Austrian People's Party, he said that the Austrian note showed that violation of the principles of the United Nations was to be blamed for the fact that such a tremendous wave of distrust had encompassed the world.

Rep. Tonic also took issue with the repeated demands that Austria as a neutral nation should join a prospective bloc of other neutral nations. He pointed out that true neutrality were misused for creating such a bloc. As a neutral state, he said, Austria could participate in international talks but must decline participation in any so-called neutral bloc. Austria's participation in international conferences would appear to promise results only if both sides desired it. It was necessary to make this quite clear, he added, because an appeal to participate had thus far come from only one side.

Rep. Olah spoke for the Socialists; he said "Neutral Austria is definitely not sentenced to a passive role in international affairs. Even as small a nation as ours has the right, even the duty, to participate and help in solving a

question on which the survival of mankind may depend.

"We acknowledge the need for security by the individual states and blocs. We are of the opinion that no one should demand unreasonable concessions from the other or enter negotiations with a mind made-up in advance. It should be expected that the parties to international talks meet each other halfway. The theory of strength on the one side and speculation as to possible future domestic developments on the other cannot be the basis of a realistic policy. A basic condition for world peace is not only the liberty of the individual but also the independence of nations. The Austrian Socialists advocate that every proposal be considered and that every road be tried which promises even a remote prospect for a peaceful solution.

"What Austria's people and Austria's government have to contribute to the discussion of keeping and securing world peace, is a word of encouragement and the cooperation of a small nation that has a rather modest conception of the role it can play," Rep. Olah said.

### KREISKY FAVORS BIG POWER TALKS AS BASIC "TO REALISTIC APPRAISAL" OF WORLD SITUATION

In a recent press interview, Bruno Kreisky, State Secretary at the Austrian Foreign Office, was asked whether he thought that the present moment was propitious for negotiations on the outstanding problems of the world and what were the prospects for success in such negotiations. In his answer the State Secretary said: I am in principle, in favor of talks between the Big powers because I believe that only in this way will it be possible to ascertain the possibilities for an understanding and to make use of them.

### Preliminary Understanding Held Possible

It is my view that in the present situation it is quite possible - assuming good will on the part of all parties concerned - to arrive at some temporary solutions of a few very important problems. This might well lead to a better political climate which is of course essential if further progress is to be made. It would, however, be illusory to expect that a conference of Chiefs of State could solve all the outstanding problems. Should one expect the achievement of the maximum obtainable, a very thorough preparation of these negotiations is essential.

### Deliberate Progress, Proper Preparation Sought

It is unreasonable to hope that problems which have not been solved for the past twelve years, could be solved at a hastily convened top-level conference by some slight of hand. Anyone who wants serious negotiations must also accept serious preparation. By this I don't mean that all the results of the negotiations must be determined in advance, and that the Chiefs of State should be called only to confirm what others will have negotiated for them. But some assumptions must be predetermined. A completely fruitless conference on the summit - aside from the deep and corrosive disappointment it would cause the world over - might put insurmountable obstacles in the path of any future get-together on the highest level.



### TOP I.A.E.A. OFFICIALS APPOINTED.

Sterling Cole, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, has announced the appointment of the following executive members of his staff: Professor Mario Eduardo Guido Bancora (Argentina) technical supplies; John Edward Cummins (Australia), scientific and technical information; David Fischer (South Africa), external relations; Yoshio Fugiooka (Japan), isotopes; Andrei Ivanovich Galagan (U.S.S.R.), I.A.E.A. representative at the UN; U.L. Goswami (India), economic and technical services; Karol Kraczkiewicz (Poland), personnel; Professor Joaquim da Costa Ribeiro (Brazil), exchange and training of scientists and technicians; Professor Antonio Rostagni (Italy), exploration and laboratories; Josef Snizek (Czechoslovakia), reactors; Donald G. Sullivan (U.S.A.), general services; and D.W. Campbell Tait (Canada), health and security.

### SCHAERF RECEIVES STERLING COLE

President Adolf Schaerf recently received Sterling Cole, director general of the international Atomic Agency. Cole was accompanied by his special adviser, Karl Gruber, one-time Austrian foreign minister and more recently Austrian Ambassador in Washington. The President discussed the work being done by the agency.

### OIL OUTPUT PER DAY: ANOTHER DECLINE

According to official figures, crude oil production in Austria in December, 1957, amounted to 261,157.73 metric tons as compared to the November, 1957, figure of 253,114 tons. However, the daily production declined by 12.7 tons in comparison with November. Austrian crude oil production for 1957 yielded a total of 3,185,599 metric tons. Natural gas production amounted to 79 million cubic meters in December as against 72.5 million cubic meters in November. Total 1957 natural gas production in Austria amounted to 758.85 million cubic meters.

### TWENTY NEW OIL DRILLINGS PLANNED FOR 1958

The Austrian Petroleum Administration (OeMV) plans to undertake about 20 new drillings in areas expected to yield oil. It is estimated that during 1958 about 2.74 million metric tons will be produced. The Administration hopes to achieve a stabilization of oil production following a series of successful drillings in the neighborhood of Laa-on-Thaya, Lower Austria, where experts look for important oil finds.

### NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION UP

The production of natural gas has risen from around 733 million normal cubic meters in 1956 to 745 million normal cubic meters in 1957. (A normal cubic meter is that amount of gas which is contained in a cubic meter of space under atmospheric pressure and at a temperature of 15 degrees Celsius; Ed.). In 1957, it is believed, no less than 1,200 normal cubic meters can be stored. Losses in natural gas which in 1955 still amounted to 240 million normal cubic meters, declined in 1957 to 124.1 million normal cubic meters. During the current year, losses are expected further to decrease.

### SUPER-REFINERY IN PLANNING STAGE

Under the jurisdiction of the Administration were 824 wells late in 1957, namely 222 erupting wells, 16 gas lift

### "EUROPEAN FORUM" DURING VIENNA FESTIVAL "EUROPAPLATZ" TO COMMEMORATE EVENT.

The Vienna Festival will acquire a new facet in 1958 thanks to an important political event, the European Forum set for the third week in June.

The following have promised to address the gathering: Robert Schuman (France); the President of the Council of Europe, Fernand Dehousse (Belgium), and the General Secretary of the Council of Europe Ludovico Benvenuti (Italy); Professor Raymond Aron (France), Aneurin Bevan and Jenny Lee (England); Professor Salvador de Madariaga, the Spanish statesman in exile; Prime Minister H.C. Hansen and former Minister Per Federspiel (Denmark); the President of the Bundestag, Dr. Karl Gerstenmeier, the Vice President of the Bundestag, Prof. Carlo Schmid, and Members of the Bundestag Fritz Erler and Kurt Georg Kiesinger (Federal Republic of Germany).



*The square in front of the Western Station in Vienna (See picture) will be named Europaplatz in a ceremony to be attended by participants of the forum.*

wells and 586 pumping wells. A year earlier, only 621 wells were working, 250 of them erupting wells which make production cheaper. For 1958, it is expected that 872 wells will be in production. The average daily capacity per hour fell from a high of 14.9 metric tons late in 1955 to 10 metric tons late in 1957, and started with 8.7 metric tons this year.

In addition to the refinery at Lobau which has an annual capacity of 400,000 metric tons of crude oil, the Administration also operates refineries in Korneuburg, Schwechat, Moosbierbaum and Boesendorf — all in the vicinity of Vienna. Their individual capacities are, in order: 350,000, 700,000, 360,000 and 140,000 tons of crude oil yearly.

The newly planned super-refinery in Schwechau is expected to produce 1.6 million metric tons of crude oil yearly after the first construction stage is finished (probably late in 1959.) Following the second construction stage (probably at the end of 1962), the capacity of the Schwechat refinery will rise to 2.5 million metric tons of crude oil per year, or just below the current total output of all refineries.

### **INCREASED AUSTRIAN CHEMICAL EXPORTS: E.E.C.O. NATIONS ALONE ACCOUNT FOR 32%**

A study by the European Economic Cooperation Organization, published recently, showed that Austria's E.E.C.O. chemical trade in 1956 amounted to \$64.8 million (3.4%) in imports and \$35.6 million (1.25%) in exports.

Austria's chemical exports rose by about 30% compared with 1955, while its imports increased by about 20%. Chemical products constituted about 5% of Austria's total 1956 exports.

During 1956, Austria delivered about 32% of its total chemical exports to members of the E.E.C.O., 61.2% to other nations and the remaining 6.8% to the dollar area and overseas countries. On the other, side, Austria obtained 88.7% of its chemical imports from E.E.C.O. nations, 6.7% from other countries and the remaining 4.6% almost exclusively from the dollar area.

Chemical exports from the E.E.C.O. nations in 1956 reached a total value of \$2,846 millions. As a comparison, the United States alone exported \$1,273 million worth of chemical products in that year. The imports in the E.E.C.O. nations amounted to \$1,864 million and U.S. imports to \$374 million.

The biggest export member of the E.E.C.O. in 1956 was the Federal Republic of Germany with exports amounting to \$777.7 million. Next came Great Britain with \$684.7 million, and at some distance France, the Netherlands and the Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Union.

### **COAL PRODUCTION STEADY**

Austrian coal production in 1957 amounted to 7,027,684 metric tons compared with 6,850,000 tons the year before. Of the total, almost 6,850,000 metric tons (6,730,000 in 1956) were soft coal, the rest was hard coal. The trade association of Coal Mines and Iron Producers estimated that in 1958, coal production will remain at about the same level.

### **AUSTRIAN INFORMATION**

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### **CRUDE ALUMINUM PRODUCTION ON THE RISE; EXPORTS DIP**

Austria's production of crude aluminum in 1957 is estimated at about 75,000 metric tons. (Production figures for December, 1957, were not available.) This compares to 70,764 metric tons in 1956. Although production shows an increase, exports declined as compared with 1956. While about 24,400 metric tons worth 344.3 million schillings (26 schillings equal one dollar. Ed.) were sold to foreign countries in 1956, the 1957 estimate is 22,500 metric tons worth 314 million schillings.

The slight decline is due mainly to the fact that Austria's largest aluminum customer the Federal Republic of Germany, bought considerably less last year than in 1956. Switzerland, Italy and the Netherlands also limited their purchases somewhat. The United States bought no aluminum from Austria in the first nine months of 1957; France and Argentina, on the other hand, increased their Austrian aluminum imports.

### **PROGRESS IN THE FOOD INDUSTRY.**

The Austrian food industry showed continued progress during the past year. The gross value of food products during the first half of 1957 amounted to 4,486 million schillings as against 4,175 million schillings during the same period in 1956. (26 schillings equal one dollar. Ed.). Estimates for the second half of 1957 indicate a further increase.

It should be noted, however, that the growth in the Austrian food industry has been smaller than in other industries. While the production index for all industries rose by 142% (1937 - 100) compared with prewar figures, growth of the food industry increased by only 56%. Thus capacity expansion in the food industry limped behind that of other industries. Considering the existing capacity in the industry, employment is considered satisfactory. Last October, the industry had the highest number of employed to date. The index was 124 (June, 1953 - 100).

The food industry plays a pretty important role in Austria's total economic picture. Almost 10% of all industrial workers (about 590,000) are employed in it (about 50,000). Small and medium large firms are the rule. While only 27% of all Austrian industrial firms give employment to less than 20 persons and only 76% to less than 100, figures in the food industry show that 34% of the firms employ less than 20 persons and 81% less than 100.

### **NEWSPRINT SALES POSE PROBLEM**

Because the United States has disappeared almost completely as a consumer of Austrian newsprint, exports of that commodity totalling 96,500 metric tons in 1957, declined almost 25% in comparison with 1956. Deliveries to the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, France, Argentina and several other countries increased somewhat.

During the same period, production of newsprint shrank by about 17%, from 161,000 metric tons to 133,000. Domestic consumption increased by little: from 33,400 metric tons in 1956 to 34,100 in 1957. there was never any newsprint shortage for domestic consumers.

Because newly-created production capacities overseas exercised a certain supply pressure upon international markets, newsprint prices declined. A certain balance for the rather large export decline in newsprint has been created by the export of slick paper which during the first nine months of 1957 had already risen by about 27% over exports in the same period of 1956.

### **LUMBER EXPORTS FALLING OFF**

Austrian exports of lumber cut from coniferous trees in 1957 amounted to 3,246,742 cubic meters, or 4.8% less than in 1956. Exports to two buyers rose a little: the Federal Republic of Germany increased its purchase from 894,926 cubic meters in 1956 to 937,290 in 1957, and Italy went from 1,535,513 in 1956 to 1,548,114 in 1957. All others showed a decline: exports to the Netherlands fell from 226,648 in 1956 to 202,311 cubic meters in 1957; those to France from 197,876 to 137,197; exports to Trieste (for transit) decreased from 119,115 cubic meters to 99,683 and to Switzerland, from 82,412 down to 69,574. Exports to Greece declined from 97,832 cubic meters to 65,159 and to Hungary, from 80,458 to 48,322.



### AUSTRIA'S MIDDLE EAST TRADE: EXPORTS TO PERSIAN GULF AREA GAIN.

The Austrian Trade Delegate in Baghdad announced recently that Austrian exports to the sheikhdoms on the Persian Gulf rose considerably in 1957. Thus exports to the sheikhdom of Kuwait alone — Kuwait is the largest oil producer in the Near East — amounted to 21.2 million schillings (26 schillings equal one dollar. Ed.) in the first nine months of 1957. This permits an estimate of from 25 to 30 million schillings for the full year. Among Austrian shipments to Kuwait were especially these products: paper and cardboard (about 35%), building materials and lumber (about 30%), various small steel products, wire and tools, rubber products, construction and electric motors, scientific and optical instruments as well as ladies' fashions. Austrian exports to the Arab sheikhdoms of Bahrein, Qatar and to the Trucial Coast amounted to about 1.5 million schillings during the first nine months of 1957. As recently as 1955, total Austrian exports to the western nations of Asia (Kuwait, Bahrein, Qatar, Trucial Coast, Muscat, Hadramaut, Aden and Yemen) amounted to only .7 million schillings. By 1956, they had increased to 22.5 million schillings.

### AUSTRIAN JOINT STOCK COMPANIES WORTH 22.5 BILLION SCHILLINGS

Recently published reports for 1957 show that joint stock companies in Austria, totaling 504 organizations, represented an aggregate value of 22.5 billion schillings. (26 schillings equal one dollar Ed.).

### AUSTRIA HAS 381 MILLIONAIRES (IN SCHILLINGS, OF COURSE)

Austrian statistics for 1954, just published, show that 280,730 taxpayers were in the category "professional and self-employed." Their total incomes amounted to 10,258,598,000 schillings. (26 schillings equal one dollar. Ed.). After deductions, total taxable incomes came to 9,826,053,000 schillings and income taxes amounted to 2,366,154,000 schillings.

The statistics show that 381 persons filed tax returns for incomes of more than one million schillings in 1954. The total was 939,192,000 schillings.

The millionaires accounted for 0.1% of those liable to income tax under the above category, but their incomes made up 9.1% of the national income. And if you add persons who declared incomes between 300,000 schillings and one million schillings, the result is that 2,257 — 0.7% of all taxpayers — represented more than 18.1% of the national income; or 1,867 million schillings. After deductions, the taxable amount was reduced to 1,850 million schillings, of which 919 million schillings were paid in income tax. That amounted to 38.9% of the total tax take.

From these figures, it becomes obvious that incomes in Austria are not so evenly divided as is often supposed.

### VIENNA HOSPITALS CAN ACCOMMODATE 16,000 PATIENTS

Vienna can now take care of more than 16,000 patients with a total of 12,286 beds in public hospitals and about 4,000 in private hospitals. With a ratio of one bed per 95

residents, Vienna is now better off than a number of other large European cities: Bremen, for instance, has 10 beds per 1,000 residents, Stockholm eight. In all of Bavaria the ratio is also eight per 1,000. Vienna hospitals receive an average 700 patients daily. The larger number of cases received in winter is due not only to colds and circulatory ailments but to accidents suffered in winter sports and on slippery streets. (450 beds are kept in reserve in Vienna hospitals for such emergencies.)

#### Beds available in Vienna's Public Hospitals:

Medical Specialty	Beds	Medical Specialty	Beds
General	3,530	Urology	238
Surgical	2,081	X-ray therapy	90
Ophthalmology	319	Orthopedy	80
Skin	721	CHILDREN	
Nose, Ear, Throat	363	Babies	245
Prenatal	321	Infectious	499
Gynecology	863	Internal	510
Neurology	707	Surgical	109
Infectious	307	Postnatal	33
Tuberculosis	1,270		

### FEDERAL TAX COLLECTIONS IN THE LAST QUARTER OF 1957

During the 4th quarter of 1957, the Federal tax intake amounted to 6,690 million schillings. Of this 2,198 millions reverted to the states and communities as well as to special funds. A comparison of public tax collections of the last quarter of 1957 with the last quarter of 1956 shows the following picture:

	1957	1956
	In schillings *)	
Direct taxes	2,869,550,000	2,167,781,000
Sales tax	1,248,591,000	1,123,500,000
Surtax on Sales tax	624,787,000	561,750,000
Customs	478,582,000	413,379,000
Use tax	765,284,000	703,113,000
Fees and transport taxes	681,178,000	573,558,000
Other taxes	21,380,000	23,066,000
Total....	6,690,352,000	5,566,147,000

\*) One dollar equals 26 schillings.

### AUSTRIAN COMMEMORATIVE STAMP FOR WORLD SKI CHAMPIONSHIP 1958

A new commemorative stamp on occasion of the Ski Championship to be held in Bad Gastein in 1958 has been issued on January 29, 1958, with a face value of 1 schilling and 50 groschen.



The design of the blue stamp is by Georg Wimmer. The stamp has been engraved and printed by the Austrian Government Printing Office in an edition of 3,000,000.

## CULTURE AND SCIENCE

### A PREVIEW OF THE VIENNA 1958 FESTIVAL

Several Viennese Theatres have already worked out plans for their offerings to domestic and foreign visitors during the Vienna Festival. Planning that far ahead is, of course, tentative to a degree. Last minute changes may be caused by conflicting schedules.

The *State Opera*, at any rate, is planning to contribute a "Week of Contemporary Operatic Creation." The scheduled program contains "Wozzeck" by Alban Berg, Igor Stravinsky's "Oedipus Rex" and the ballet "Petrushka". Hindemith is represented by a performance of his "Mathis the Painter", Orff - by his "Trionfi" Frank Martin - by the "Storm" and Egk - by his opera "The Inspector General". Included in addition in the Festival Program are: "The Magic Flute", "Fidelio" and "Carmen". From among Puccini's works "Manon Lescaut" and "Madame Butterfly" will be presented. Also on the program are: Wagner's "Tannhäuser", "Tristan and Isolde", "The Mastersingers"; Verdi's "La Traviata" and "Othello" as well as "Der Rosenkavalier" and "The Woman without a Shadow" by Richard Strauss.

The *Burgtheater* offers, in addition to the Grillparzer-Cycle, Shakespeare's "As you Like It", Goethe's "Faust" I and II, Schiller's "Maria Stuart" as well as Ferdinand Raimund's "The Peasant as Millionaire", "The King of the Alps and the Misanthrope" and "The Squanderer". Performances of Nestroy's "He Wants to Play a Joke" and Csokor's "November 3rd, 1918" complete the program. A real treat for theatregoers with literary interests is in store with the premiere of Ferdinand Bruckner's "The Earthen Buggy" in which the author gives a modern presentation of the old Hindu play "Vasantasena". (Guest performances of prominent ensembles from abroad at the Burgtheater are still in the negotiating stage.)

The prospects at the *Akademietheater* are - in addition to Wilde's "A Woman Without Importance", Molnar's "Olympia" and Carroll's "The Rebellious Saint" - for a premiere: Franz Rastnik's comedy "The Young Lady from Kahlenberg"

The *Volksooper* offers - aside from a number of well known operas and musicals - a novelty in the form of the musical "Donna Francisquita" by the Spaniard Vives.

The management of the *Raimundtheater* has decided to include in the Festival program "The Three-Girls-House" by Schubert and the *Volkstheater* will stage a new presentation of Ferdinand Raimund's "The Ghost King's Diamond" for the visitors of the Vienna Festival.

### VIENNA BARITONE GETS CALL FROM BING

Rudolf Bing, director of the New York Metropolitan Opera, has invited Karl Doensch, baritone of the Vienna State Opera, to star at the Met during the season beginning January, 1959. Doensch is to sing the doctor in the Met's premiere of Alban Berg's opera "Wozzeck" under the direction of Karl Boehm. Other roles for Doensch at the Met include Leporello in Mozart's "Don Giovanni," Klingsor in Wagner's "Parsifal," and Beckmesser in "Die Meistersinger."

### AUSTRIAN STATE THEATERS GET NEW CHIEF

Karl Haertl, deputy director of the Austrian State Theater Administration since 1949, has succeeded Ernst Marboe, who died recently. (The Administration controls the Vienna State Opera, the Volksoper, the Burgtheater and the Akademietheater.)

### AUSTRIA BUILDS A BRIDGE - TO THE WORLD: PLANS FOR BRUSSELS FAIR EXHIBIT

The Austrian Pavillion at the World's Fair in Brussels, whose steel construction, symbolizing a bridge, rests on only four anchor points, will depict Austria's position as mediator. The pavillion main floor will contain, as an artistic decoration, a huge sculpture by Wotruba. The pavillion has two side tracts: one will be a kindergarten, operated by the Vienna Municipality, to entertain visitor's children while their parents enjoy the fair; the other will contain a motion picture studio and a public information office.

As an Austrian contribution to the Fair's special events, performances of the Vienna State Opera and concerts of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra (under the direction of Herbert Karajan) will be given on so-called "Austria Days." There will also be a Johann Strauss Night.

Monday, May 5, the State Opera will open its Fair season in the Palais des Beaux Arts with "The Marriage of Figaro." A choral mass and organ recital under Austrian direction will be given in the Vatican Pavillion on Tuesday, May 6. In the evening of the same day, Herbert Karajan will conduct Beethoven's Ninth Symphony in the Palais des Beaux Arts.

Austria will have its "National Day" on Wednesday, May 7. On this occasion Archbishop Dr. Koenig will celebrate a Pontifical Mass in the Vatican Pavillion. The Hofmusik-kapelle will play a Mozart Mass. In the evening the Great World's Fair Hall will be the place of the Johann Strauss night. From May 8 to 10, the ensemble of the Vienna State Opera will offer performances of Richard Strauss' "Salome" and Mozart's "Marriage of Figaro" in the Palais des Beaux Arts.

### UNDERGRADUATES TOP LIST

#### OF AUSTRIANS IN U.S. EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

According to figures recently released by the State Department, 1300 persons have come from Austria to the U.S. between 1949 and 1956 within the framework of the Exchange Program. The largest single group among them were 654 University students.

### 82 NATIONS IMPORT AUSTRIAN MICROSCOPES

Exports of Austrian made microscopes in 1957 went to 82 nations on four continents, among them the U.S., Italy, France, Poland, Indonesia, Britain, Canada, mainland China, Sweden, Soviet Russia, Australia and Yugoslavia. Production increased by 9% during the year.

### SAN DIEGO COLLEGE TOUR CENTERS ON SALZBURG

A European study tour arranged by Dr. Robert S. Hamilton, Dean of the San Diego Junior College, provides for participants to attend the Salzburg Seminar, July 6-27. (More p. 8)



## THE AUSTRIAN REPLY TO PREMIER BULGANIN'S NOTE

The Foreign Affairs Department of the Federal Chancellery is honored to acknowledge receipt of the note of the government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of December 10, 1957, addressed to the Austrian Federal Government and transmitted to the Austrian Embassy in Moscow, and of a second note of January 8, 1958, which together with a personal letter by the Soviet Premier Nicolai Alexandrowich Bulganin to Federal Chancellor Julius Raab, was submitted on that day.

Those responsible for Austrian foreign policy do not close their minds to the fact that current world conditions do not correspond to that state of affairs which the peoples of the world seek in order to look forward - free of fear - toward a happy and peaceful future. In spite of several promising starts, there has been no success during the past few years in diminishing the existing tensions in any decisive and desirable measure. It is the conviction of the Austrian Federal Government that further untiring efforts toward a constructive solution of unsettled international problems are needed to bring about a state of mutual confidence and thus to create the preconditions for a peaceful development of inter-state relations which are so keenly hoped for by all mankind.

The Soviet note of December 10, 1957, represents the definite view that the outbreak of war can be avoided. The Austrian Federal Government shares this view. It bases its optimism here not only upon the probability that the destructive effects of the new weapons would not seem to render a solution of differences by means of war sensible and efficient to any of the participants, but also upon the fact that in spite of the seemingly unbridgeable differences it has been possible in the past few years to bring one or another of these seemingly unsoluble international problems nearer an agreed solution.

The recent history of Austria is living proof of this. For 10 years, the Austrian people had expressed time and again their desire for independence and sovereignty. The fact that the four big powers, following years of untiring work on details in cooperation with the Austrian Federal Government, finally created the preconditions for the signing of the Austrian State Treaty and thus returned to the Austrian people its independence, shows that an understanding is possible even in difficult questions.

In his radio address of January 5, 1958, Federal Chancellor Julius Raab pointed out that neutral Austria has given convincing proof of its desire for peace. 'We have observed the conditions of the State Treaty,' the Federal Chancellor declared, 'and we know that none of the signatory states has thus far regretted having put its signature to this treaty. This positive act to assure peace has thus far been of advantage to all participants.'

At the time, it could have been thought that the signing of the Austrian State Treaty would be the harbinger of a new era of lessening of tension and of peaceful cooperation among the powers which did not seem to exclude a solution of other unsettled world problems. Regrettably, these hopes were de-

stroyed in the time that followed - not least by the events of the fall of 1956.

In the course of the past year, the efforts of the big powers were mainly directed toward obtaining a partial solution in the so important field of disarmament. The present Soviet notes make the end of world armament and all connected issues the focal point of their observations. The Western side, too, pointed out again and again in most recent times the tremendous importance of this problem for a peaceful development of interstate relations.

The Austrian Federal Government shares this view, represented by both sides, and believes that nothing should be left untried to get the interrupted disarmament talks going again. In his speech before the 12th General Assembly of the United Nations, Austrian Foreign Minister Dr. Leopold Figl pointed out that a comparison of the disarmament proposals submitted last year indicated a certain meeting of minds. For the first time in years, there had been concrete negotiations in London. As a result of these negotiations, the points of view of both sides had now been clearly and openly disclosed.

The result of the debate in the 12th General Assembly had thus been the more disappointing. But in spite of all difficulties, the Austrian Federal Government continues to believe that, with good will, it should be possible to reach at least partial results.

In his above-mentioned letter to Federal Chancellor Raab, Premier Bulganin brought up the question of the erection of rocket bases in nations bordering on Austria, which, at least in his opinion, might seriously threaten the security and sovereignty of neutral Austria. The Austrian government is convinced that the newest developments of science with its thrust into the orbit are accompanied by new serious political and legal problems, not limited to Austria alone, which need clarification.

In its note of December 10, 1957, the Government of the Soviet Union calls attention to its proposal before the 12th General Assembly of the United Nations, to develop relations among nations on the basis of expressly mentioned principles.

As was pointed out by the Austrian representative during the disarmament debate in the General Assembly, the Federal Government is convinced that in the divided world in which we are forced to live, peaceful cooperation between states is a prerequisite for the survival of mankind. This co-existence can be built only upon firm principles. This was clear to the founders of the United Nations when they composed its charter. In this connection, the Austrian Federal Government wishes again to give expression to its convictions, as mentioned in New York, that this cooperation will be fruitful especially if it lets itself be guided by these principles of the UN charter which concern themselves with human rights.

In its note of January 8, 1958, the Government of the Soviet Union proposes the calling within the next two or three months of a conference of leading statesmen with the participation of heads of governments for the purpose of bringing about a basic change of international conditions and

of ending the cold war.

The Austrian Federal Government has pointed out repeatedly that no country in the world can be more interested in a lessening of tensions than Austria which, because of its geographical position at the cross roads between East and West, is directly or indirectly touched by any worsening in opposite views. It has always been the policy of the Austrian Federal Government to meet positively any step which seems designed to bring about constructive solutions of unsettled world-political questions and thus to effect a true lessening of tensions. Thus it appreciates the fact that the desire of both parties to initiate contacts and talks is implicit in the present Soviet notes as well as in the most recent declarations of Western statesmen.

The Austrian point of view on this question has been clearly stated in the New Year's address of Austrian Federal President Dr. Adolf Schaerf, as well as in the above-quoted speech of the Austrian Federal Chancellor of January 5, 1958. It will now become necessary to create the conditions for a conference which will promise results. Such preparations are absolutely necessary in the opinion of the Austrian Federal Government in order to exclude from the very beginning any possibility of failure. This should be in the interest of both parties in view of the high expectations which mankind would attach to a meeting of leading statesmen of the world.

In its note of January 8, 1958, the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics finally made the proposal to invite to the prospective talks also nations which are not

bound by military obligations to one or the other side and which for that very reason might play a positive role in the interests of peace. Among others, Austria was named as one of these countries.

The Austrian Federal Government is fully conscious of the limit of its possibilities. Of course, this will not keep it from offering its services if that should be the desire of all participants.

#### **MOLTERER INVITED TO U.S. SKI MEETS**

Austrian champion skiers Toni Sailer and Anderl Molterer were again invited this year to compete in the world championships in the United States. Sailer, a prospective hotel owner, had to decline the invitation due to pressure of business. Molterer, however, accepted. Much to the regret of his Austrian fans, Molterer will thus miss the Austrian ski championships (February 26 to March 3 in Hofgastein) and probably also the Kandahar races (March 7-9 in Sankt Anton).

#### **SALZBURG 1958: EUROPEAN PREMIERE OF "VANESSA"**

Under the artistic direction of Herbert Karajan, this year's Salzburg Festival will show an international trend. Among the performances will be the European premiere of Samuel Barber's "Vanessa." Its cast, with few exceptions, will be the same American singers who participated in the world premiere at New York's Metropolitan Opera House.

## **AUSTRIAN INFORMATION**

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